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The Rouen Post, August 1951

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THE ROUEN POST

NEWS - LETTER

Devoted to the interests of the members of B.H. 21 World War I and the 21st Gen.Hosp.
World War II

August, 1951

Bill Engel, Editor

MISS BERTHA LOVE DIES;

MEMBER OF B.H. 21, WORLD WAR I.

Funeral services for Miss Bertha Love, former nurse who served with Base Hospital 21 during World War I and former night supervisor at St. Luke's Hospital at St. Louis was held at the Lesley Marks Funeral Home in Edwardsville, Illinois, July 23, 1951. She died at the hospital July 20, 1951.

Miss Love, 71, retired in 1944 after 20 years in the hospital post. Her career also included service in France and three years as night supervisor at Missouri University Hospital in Columbia, Mo.

She lived on a farm at Quercus Grove, northeast of Edwardsville, Illinois. All of her immediate survivors live there: Two sisters, the Misses Margaret and Wylle Love, and two brothers, Henry and James Love.

* * *

Miss Love's passing leaves another great void within the ranks of former members of Base Hospital 21. We join with the family in their hour of sorrow.

* * *

NAMED TO AMA POST

Dr. Melvin A. Casberg, dean of St. Louis University's School of Medicine, has been appointed chairman of the American Medical Association's Section on Military Medicine, it was announced recently. Dr. Casberg, as we have previously mentioned was a member of the 21st General Hospital Unit in Europe and Africa, and was on duty with the Army in China during World War II. After a period of retirement he was recalled to duty and served in the Office of the Surgeon General early in 1949, just prior to taking the post as dean of St. Louis University's Medical School.

* * *

COLONEL CHARLES F. SHOOK REPORTS.

Col. Shook who, during World War I, served with the American Expeditionary Forces as a Medical Officer, remained in the service and during World War II was assigned to the 21st General Hospital, reported to us on a recent trip to Europe. We are delighted to have the Colonel's report and it affords us much pleasure to use it. Would that other members could be as thoughtful.

* * *

Mr. Bill Engel, Editor...Toledo, Ohio.

Dear Bill: Thought you would be interested in the attached copy of a summary on our recent trip abroad.

I have only one thing to add and that is that we revisited a large number of spots that brought back wonderful memories and some of them were closely connected with the 21st General.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am, Sincerely, Charlie.

At this juncture we would like to mention that the former Medical Corps Colonel is now Medical Director of the Owens-Illinois Glass Company at Toledo, Ohio.

* * *

COLONEL SHOOK'S REPORT

First of all, there is a great thrill in flying the Atlantic Ocean for you realize that you are following the paths of Lindbergh, Byrd, Wiley Post and other famous aviators. Of course your time is much shorter and your ride more comfortable but it still is an experience.

We flew both ways with but a single stop at Shannon, Ireland. New York to Paris in 13½ hours and London to New York in 16½ hours. (The prevailing winds explain the difference.) Our flights were smooth and uneventful. We were too high to see anything but clouds plus beautiful sunrises and sunsets.

On the continent we traveled by train and bus to visit France, Monte Carlo, Italy, Switzerland, Luxemburg, Belgium and Holland. Then we went by boat and train to England. It was a heavy schedule but it had to be met if we wished to cover the ground and see all the high spots. We now know what one night stands mean to theatrical people.

Paris and London were celebrating birthday anniversaries and both were out to do their best to please not only the visitor but their own people as well.

We were foreigners visiting alien ground and it was grant to note the attitude of both our hosts and our own travelers. We have heard that visitors were unwelcome and in turn that Americans were poor sales men of good-will. Both of these statements are far from the truth as we saw it. We were welcomed everywhere and with but one exception we conducted ourselves as ladies and gentlemen. (Ed.'s note! Wonder if the Colonel would care to enlighten us on the "one exception"?)

Another thrill to me was to note the wonderful recovery in Italy and the appreciation of our financial assistance. Wherever we stopped in the large cities or in the small villages people expressed thanks for the Marshall Plan. I did not hesitate to add my own comments. Our money has been spent wisely and the people themselves have supplied the sweat and long hours to get results. The Italians are proud and ambitious. They have been a first class power and they are all pulling together to redeem themselves in the eyes of the world. The scars of war are fast disappearing and in their place you find blocks of new industrial plants and housing for the workers. These people are working from sunup to sun down. This year Italy's wheat crop will be 500,000 bushels over normal. The weather has been a great help but you must remember everything on the farm is done by hand and in an old antiquated way. I saw only three farm tractors in ten days while in America you would see that many on one big farm. You see very few automobiles in Italy for gas is expensive and the money can be spent for better things.

We have all heard of Venetian glass for it has been famous for years. While in Venice, Italy, I visited one of the oldest of their glass plants. It was most interesting to me because the entire layout was antiquated when compared to our modern

production equipment with all its safety and health protective devices. Probably some of our older employees of Kimble or Libbey might have felt at home for all blowing was by hand and production was the hard way.

The workers in the batch shed did wear respirators as they mixed the materials for the next day's production. The glass was melted in pots over hot fires built up by wood as the chief fuel. You wondered how enough heat could be made but somehow it was. The glass is prepared at night and then the blowers and their apprentices stay on the job until the pots are exhausted.

This plant had six (6) master craftsmen and each was supported by four (4) apprentices who were learning the trade. None of these employees were given physical examinations and apparently no precaution was taken to protect their health.

The finished product, whether it be a fancy vase or just an ornament, then went into a lehr where it traveled slowly for two days with a gradual reduction of temperature. The products were really beautiful and a credit to the ability of the master craftsmen. We also visited places where leather goods, laces, mosaics and cameos were made. Naturally, I was extremely interested in all industry, for the business part of my tour included conferences with French, Italian and English representatives upon safety and industrial medicine. It was interesting to note how similar all their problems were to ours.

It was truly a wonderful trip and one long to be remembered. Especially did we appreciate the absence of war talk and political bickering. You did note men in uniform, however, and you also noted a growing respect for General Eisenhower. The people impressed you that they were peace-loving and anxious to get along with their neighbor even if it meant appeasement upon general subjects.

The necessities of life were available in all countries except Great Britain. Rationing of meat, sugar, clothing and many other essentials is in effect. The people dislike the limitation but they recognize its necessity and make the best of it. In five days in London we had but one meat serving and that was lamb cut with a razor.

Another impression was the cleanliness of all of the cities we visited. Our American cities cannot compare with London, Paris, Rome and even Naples when it comes to

clean streets and alleys. It is all a case of education and pride. Also conservation by the European has been taught by experience, to save everything.

* * *

MISSOURI STATE BONUS, W.W.1.

Since invitations were not issued to potential participants in the Missouri State Bonus, W.W. 1, it is not surprising to us that some of the members of B.H. 21 who had been living elsewhere had not learned of it until we spread the information on these pages.

* * *

We have another letter written to Finance Officer Jackson by Miss Mance Taylor former Chief Nurse of B.H. 21, we quote:

Dear Mr. Jackson: Enclosed please find a delayed contribution for the Rouen Post. In World War I, we had a Jackson in our group --are you he? Or are you a member of the 21st G.H. group?

You probably have my addresses as 1525 Spruce Street, Berkeley, Calif. However, as of now, I have entered a Home for retired people and this will be my permanent address for the rest of my life.

Can you give me any information about the Missouri Bonus? I have not received such a sum and would like to know more about it.

Thanking you in advance,

Claremont Manor, Sincerely,
Claremont, Calif. (Miss) Mance Taylor.

* * *

The letter was referred to your editor for answer, which we quote:

Dear Miss Taylor: Your letter to Mr. Jackson has been referred to me for answer. Herewith is the last issue of the Rouen Post which names the procedure to be followed to procure the necessary blank for filing the bonus application.

You should write the Missouri State Bonus Commission, World War I, Jefferson City, Missouri, giving them the place of entry into the service, your serial number, period of service and affidavit from two persons who have known you for the past 30 yrs. You must have been a resident of Missouri at the time of entry into the service.

Following Sergeant Jablonsky's suggestion, we visited the office of the Recorder of Deeds, St. Louis and found that there is a register listing the names of persons who are entitled to the bonus, if or not they have applied for same, and if they have been paid. When last we checked we found that all who have recently written or telephoned us

had received payment except Frieda Damm. They simply had forgotten about it.

At the first opportunity I shall have a look at the register to determine your status. In the meantime should you feel you are entitled to the bonus, I suggest you write to the commission for an application form. I rather suspect they set up this new system to eliminate a lot of extra work caused by persons filing for the bonus who were not entitled to it and those who had forgotten they have been paid.

If I can be of further service to you in this connection, please write.

* * *

We shall be happy to continue to answer all inquiries regarding the bonus.

* * *

SPENCE ALLEN FEELING MUCH BETTER

During the waning days of July business again beckoned your editor to Cincinnati. It was humid and hot but an evening with that engaging personality, J. Spencer Allen completely dispelled all of the discomfort of the day.

We found Spence greatly improved in health. He appeared his usual robust self, with good color and a spring in his step. On the occasion of our previous visit with the paper magnate we were reminded that it was 10:30 PM and would it not be wise for us to return to the hotel.

This time the situation was reversed. We found it necessary to call a halt to the activities at an hour well past midnight. The indefatigable Allen was reluctant to turn in.

We met J. Spencer at his office in Lockland and then drove to his home for a visit with Mrs. Allen and their three charming daughters. Had Harold Jolley been with us he would have been mortified beyond recovery over a remark he made to this writer about Allen and his daughters--that such could not have been possible--after we reported our observations of the Allen family upon our return from Cincinnati in May.

That Mr. Jolley's insinuations were strictly without foundation, we know. We verified that by conferring with Mrs. Allen and noting the marked resemblance there is between the father and the daughters. And they are most attractive girls, possessing the charm and grace of Mrs. Allen and the perspicuity of Mr. Allen. There can be no mistake.

Spencer showed us the other side of the

river in Kentucky, with a background not unlike our own East Side. Your editor has never frequented any of the places opposite St. Louis in Illinois but from outward appearances they are "dumps" compared to the elaborate places we visited beyond Newport and Covington, Kentucky. However, Mr. Kefauver and his committee have curtailed their principal activities, they now being confined to excellent cuisine and entertainment.

But we did have a look behind the "iron curtains" of two of the places--due to the influential paper company executive who was our guide and host. 'Twas an interesting experience.

Be that as it may, we are pleased to report that the former Sergeant of Mobile Hospital No. 4 is vastly improved in health. His other outstanding qualities have never been the least bit affected.

* * *

GEORGE M. POLK, M.D.

Memo was received recently from Dr. George Polk with a generous check and a kindly note, "I enjoy it (The Rouen Post) very much."

* * *

George Polk, if he was not the first contributor to the Rouen Post back in 1936 certainly he was among the first five and tops in his generosity. And since he has not only been one of the most regular but one of the most generous, not only with money but also with praise.

Dr. Polk had resided and practiced at Independence, Missouri through all of the years we have been issuing this paper. If he had another address before we caught up with him, we have not known of it. He now resides at Lee's Summit, Missouri.

* * *

George was one of a group of medical students at Washington University who enlisted with B.H. 21 in 1917. These men obtained their degrees while serving with the Unit at Rouen, France and were, upon graduation, commissioned as First Lieutenants in the Army Medical Corps. If we remember correctly it was the only group ever to accomplish this.

* * *

LUCIA GARDNER AND HOWARD WHITTEMORE
MARRIED

This news came to us in a letter to Jackson with which was a contribution to the Rouen Post; we quote: Enclosed is our check to help with the "Rouen Post News

Letter."

Lucia Gardner of Springfield, Illinois (A.R.C. 21st General) and I decided some months ago to join forces and thus save the "News Letter" a little distribution expense. Will you change Lucia's mailing address from Springfield, Illinois and mine from New York City to 4678A South 36th Street, Arlington, Va.

Congratulations and an expression of appreciation, certainly are in order for the fine work done to keep the "Post" coming!

Most cordially, Lucia and Howard

Whittemore.

* * *

We have never met Mrs. Whittemore but we have developed a very high regard for her and the fine work she did while with the 21st General, as a member of the A.R.C. Her interest in the 21st G.H. since the war is emphasized by the frequent and nice letters she has written to us, and by her generosity toward the cause.

It is not a pleasant manner of measuring persons because of intrinsic values but when combined with generous portions of kindly thoughts and words, the flavor of the dollar is secondary.

* * *

Howard Whittemore was in St. Louis for our last reunion. We met a big, friendly guy with a winning smile whom we liked from the first meeting. But we realized later, after our accident, just how fine and friendly the guy really is. . . . While in St. Louis on a short business trip he had learned of the accident . . . and on a Sunday evening found time to give this writer a call . . . inquiring how things were. Many others whom we had known for years have never found that much time, but Howard Whittemore whom we had met "in our lightest moments" . . . took time to inquire about the welfare of Mrs. E. and self. . . . Those memories of kindly thoughts shall linger long after the others shall have been erased from our memory.

* * *

Somehow we feel we have a personal interest in the wedding of Lucia and Howard and we extend to them our most heartfelt and sincere wishes for a life brimful to overflowing, of happiness and the worldly things so necessary today.

* * *

MEMBERS OF 21st G.H. GREAT CONTRIBUTORS
TOWARD FUTURE HOSPITAL UNITS

Dear Bill: We enjoy the Rouen Post very

much and finally mailed a contribution to J. Jackson.

Any news from me at this point is bound to be about our family. We now have three boys and a baby girl born last Xmas day. We named her Mary Carol.

This business of having four children does not seem to be exceptional among 21st members.

Mary Robinson Fussell.

* * *

Ed. note! Someday we shall favor our readers with a list of the number & names of the children of each of the 21st G. H. members. Should be an interesting report.

* * *

BEDONNA B. JACOBS REPORTS

Dear Bill: This contribution to the Rouen Post News Letter has two failings it isn't very much and it is very late, but I hope it will help a little.

The following items may be of interest to former members of the 21st General:

In June Mrs. Evelyn Craig was graduated with the highest honors in her class and a magna cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. She has accepted a position in one of the hospitals of the University medical center.

I passed Dr. Samuel Harbison in the corridor of a hospital recently. He is looking exceptionally well.

As for myself, I expect to graduate from the University of Pittsburgh in February, majoring in industrial nursing. Have made no definite plans for the future, but there are some interesting positions offered, which I will be investigating soon. This summer I am taking anatomy and physiology and Spanish, as well as filling the role of nurse in the Occupational Health Clinic of the University and working week ends at another job. Need I say I am busy? (Ed. note! Bedonna need not say she is busy. Do not see how the gal keeps up the pace. Bet she is a bit slimmer than when we last saw her at the reunions, in her glamorous mandarin gown!)

I am glad to hear of the improvement in health of both you and Mrs. Engel.

* * *

"A little nonsense now and then

Is relished by the best of men."

He was spending a lot of time on her. He was also showering her with sweet and eloquent words. "You look good enough to eat," he told her with fondness. "I do eat," she retorted, "let's go!"

Alec Templeton, the blind piano virtuoso, is credited with having the last word in this story.

A woman waylaid him after a radio broadcast and gushed: "Oh, Mr. Templeton, that last selection you played was divine. May I ask who was the composer?"

"Bach, madam," Templeton replied.

"Wonderful," the lady blurted, "and is he composing at present?"

"No," the pianist answered, "decomposing."

"Well," said the candidate, "how did you like my speech on the agricultural problem?"

"It wasn't bad," replied the farmer, "but a day's rain would do a heap more good."

Psychology Lecturer: "Any man who is a good poker player would make a good business executive."

Member of the audience: "Why would a man who is a good poker player want to be a business executive?"

Chief Engineer: "Your reports should be written in such a manner that even the most ignorant may understand them."

Asst. Chief: "Well, sir, what part is it you don't understand?"

* * *

FRANK DEPKE DIED

As we go to press we have just received word that our genial contemporary of B. H. 21, Frank Depke, passed away Sunday, August 12, 1951.

Frank had been in and out of hospitals for more than a year. We shall supply further details in our next issue.

Our most heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Depke and their daughter.

* * *

Custer, Elmer W.	Dahlberg, Sheldon
10737 S. Washtenaw	2425 15th Ave.
Chicago, Ill.	Moline, Ill.

Custer, John D.	*Dakin, Edwin F.
Baraboo, Wisc.	Deep River Cottages
	Plymouth, N. H.

Cutler, Dr. Harold	
4386 W. Pine	Damm, Frieda M.
St. Louis, Mo.	53 Park Ave.
	Bloomfield, N.J.
Dabrowski, Henry	Dana, Mrs. Richard
6118 S. Honore St.	204 Elm St.
Chicago, Ill.	Annville, Penna.

✓ Dann, Wm. J. Jr. Executive Office VA Hospital Oakland, Calif.	DeMumbrun, Roland ✓ 116 Everett Palo Alto, Calif.	Dongarra, Jos. ✓ 933 S. Winchester Chicago, Ill.	Drown, Dr. Kenneth ✓ 5325 Cleveland Lincoln, Nebr.
✓ Danner, Wm. O. ✓ Sidell, Ill.	Dennis, Lawrence E. ✓ 3006 Cornell Des Moines 13, Ia.	Doran, Manuel W. ✓ Route #1 Dalton, Arkansas	Duff, Roy T. ✓ 7359 Michigan Chicago, Ill.
✓ Davenport, Dr. Frank Averill, N. Y.	*Depke, Frank 322 N. Grand St. Louis, Mo. (Deceased)	Doran, Nick J. ✓ 7434 N. Seely Chicago, Ill.	Dugan, Dorothy ✓ 226 Fillmore Topeka, Kansas
✓ Davis, Maj. Helen 729 E. Palmetto St. Lakeland, Fla. also: Apt. 612 510 21st St. N.W. Washington, D.C.	DeRosa, Dominic ✓ 542 N. Kedzie Ave. Chicago, Ill.	Dove, Dr. Wendell S. ✓ Hotel De Prado Barranquilla, Columbia	*Dunham, Howard W. 4344 San Carlos Dallas, Texas
✓ Davis, Lloyd Nail, Arkansas	Dershowitz, Sidney ✓ 2045 - 62nd St. Brooklyn, N.Y.	Dove, Alice Walker ✓ Hotel De Prado Barranquilla, Columbia	*Duncan, Mrs. Ella Estes VA Hospital Dayton, Ohio
*Davis, Jones Box 2268 Baton Rouge, La.	DeVaughn, Harold ✓ Livingston Manor, New York	Drachenberg, Reinhold ✓ 6548 S. Emerald Chicago, Ill.	Dunnigan, Arthur P. ✓ Pylesville, Md.
✓ Davis, Robert E. Casey, Illinois	Dibbins, Dr. Samuel ✓ 528 Andover St. Lowell, Mass.	Drake, Dr. Truman, Jr. ✓ 41 Aberdeen Place Clayton 5, Mo.	*Dunville, Thomas #19 Ordonia Louisiana, Mo.
✓ Davis, Mrs. Roger 437 Hall Street Charlotte, Michigan	DiBona, Mr. & Mrs. P. ✓ 3326 Fernwood Alton, Ill.	Dressler, Geo. W. ✓ 4826 N. Oakley Chicago, Ill.	Dutil, Donald J. ✓ 83 Webster St. Lewistown, Me.
*Davison, Margaret 507½ W. 5th St. Maryville, Mo.	Dickerson, Frances ✓ 103 N. Ohio Ave. Abington, Ill.	*****Denotes B.H. 21.*****	
✓ Dean, Carl W. Route #2 Dalton, Ga.	Dillman, Dr. Melvin ✓ 458 Montgomery Haverford, Pa.	<u>CONTRIBUTIONS</u>	
*Dearing, Mrs. Ruby Palmyra, Missouri	Dix, John W. 2513 Southwest Ave. ✓ Coral Gables, Fla.	The re-born Rouen Post News-Letter shall have its first birthday in September. The best way to show your appreciation and assure its continuance is by further assistance. That we can continue without incurring indebtedness beyond our ability to pay, you have demonstrated since last September.	
✓ Dearsaugh, Ethel M. Route #2 Cedar Lake, Ind.	*Dixon, Forney F. 4005 Beachwood Pine Lawn, Mo.	Although we are jumping the gun by a few weeks, it is time that the thoughts of each of us be directed toward the annual goal.	
✓ Deich, Wm. C. 1125 N.W. 26th St. Miami, Fla.	Dixon, Malcolm R. ✓ 3678 Berkeley Dr. Macon, Ga.	Thanks, everyone for having made it possible to carry on. Some more of the same will do the trick for another year.	
✓ DeLaughter, Lloyd Franklin Groves, Ill.	*Dolby, R. P. 419 Charter Oak Ave. Baltimore, Md.	Please mail contributions to: Justin J. Jackson, Finance Officer, 7477 Gannon Avenue University City 5, Missouri * * * * *	
✓ Delp, John P. 1153 Pennsylvania Ave. McKeesport, Pa.	Donahue, Marie N. ✓ 148 - 92st St. New York, N.Y.	And do not forget, contemporaries of each of the 21sts we would like another avalanche of letters such as we had last year, after our re-birth. Mail to: BILL ENGEL, 220 No. Fourth Street, St. Louis 2, Missouri	